

Instructions on File - No referral to
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Letterhead

ODP 81-753

16 June 1981

Mr. Robert B. Ellert
Acting Assistant Secretary for Productivity, Technology, and
Innovation
Department of Commerce
Room 3864
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Ellert:

The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) requests waivers in two separate cases from the provisions of Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) 60-63 (input/output channel level interface standards). In a recent letter to the Director of Central Intelligence, the Secretary of Commerce outlined procedures to be followed when reviewing CIA FIPS waiver requests. The Secretary stated that Department of Commerce personnel possessing appropriate security clearances would review CIA waiver requests on Agency premises.

In accordance with the Secretary's letter, the two waiver requests referred to above were discussed in great detail with technical personnel from the National Bureau of Standards at the CIA Headquarters Building on 9 June. Further discussions are scheduled.

In order to meet the legitimate concerns of your department with respect to continued official access to waiver request documentation, all FIPS waiver request material will be kept on file at the CIA Headquarters Building, McLean, Virginia. This file will be under my personal control in my role as Director of Data Processing. Access to the file will be provided, upon request, to Department of Commerce employees possessing the appropriate clearances and having professional cognizance. I may be reached at [redacted] My mailing address is Central Intelligence Agency, Room 2D00, Washington, D.C. 20505.

Sincerely,

/s/ Bruce T. Johnson

Bruce T. Johnson
Director of Data Processing

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Correspondence

THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
Washington, D.C. 20230

6 APR 1981

Executive Priority

81-3641/3

ODP # 81-451

The Honorable William J. Casey
Director, Central Intelligence
Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Bill:

Thank you for your letter requesting that I delegate to you the authority to waive the provisions of Federal Information Processing Standards issued by this Department.

We are now considering action to amend our Federal Information Processing Standards to delegate to heads of agencies the authority to approve waivers. Special consideration is being given to the national security concerns you raised.

Pending our review of this matter, if your agency requires a waiver, Department of Commerce personnel possessing appropriate clearances will review the required documentation on your premises. Should you desire such a review, please contact Acting Assistant Secretary for Productivity, Technology and Innovation Robert B. Ellert at 377-5394.

Sincerely,

Secretary of Commerce

